Vol. 9, Issue 7, July 2020

Connect

WE NEED GOD'S HEALING



While we are excited about gathering again as a church family, we are also being very cautious about making this a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone.

If you have experienced any COVID-19-related symptoms in the last two weeks, if you have compromising health issues, or if you're not quite ready to venture out, please join us for worship from the comfort of your home. (see "Continue to join us live" on pg. 3) Keep in mind that we love you and we want to protect you!

For the safety and well-being of those joining us on campus, please consider the high risk and elderly among us in all that you do.

Due to the continued National State of Emergency ...

all in-person calendar events, with the exception of Sunday morning services, have been postponed or canceled until further notice. We are working hard to keep Imbc. org and our LMBC app updated with any current information available.

Sunday evening service schedule:

5th: Happy Independence Day!

In honor of the holiday, there will be no evening service.

12th: Ask the Pastor

*See pg 3

19th: Missionary Check-In

Pastor Lemming chats with missionary Joel Dicks from Hungary.

26th: TBA

Exciting details coming soon!



Lessons **Every Day!**

You can find them on our LKC Facebook page, Imbc.org/Ikc, and our LMBC app.

In July, we will finish the miracles of Jesus and talk about the parables that He shared during His ministry. If you watched all of June with us please email Rebekah Shaffer (r.shaffer@Imbc.org) so we can celebrate with you and send you a prize for completing them all!

Continue to join us live ...

Sundays at 9:30 & 11 am, 6 pm, and Wednesdays at 7 pm on Facebook, Imbc.tv, or our LMBC app.

Daily Devotions ...

by our pastoral staff are posted Monday - Saturday on Facebook, Imbc.org/devotions, and on our LMBC app. Be sure to take advantage of this daily wisdom from God's Word.

12th

"Ask the Pastor" night is your chance to have any question you may have about the Bible and the faith discussed and answered by our pastoral staff. You can send your questions to ask@lmbc.org or visit lmbc.org/ask-the-pastor and fill out the available form.

ASK THE PASTOR

REEFUEL

In-Person
Meetings!
High School //
Mondays @ 1 pm
Middle School //
Tuesdays @ 1 pm

sign-up online: Imbc.org/refuel

Join us online Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, & Sat @ 11:30am and Wednesday @ 9pm

youtube.com/c/refuelstudents

20/20 BIBLE READING

Follow this month's daily Bible reading plan below to refocus in 2020.

1st Psalms 106-107

2nd Psalms 108-114

3rd Psalms 115-118

4th Psalm 119:1-88

5th Psalm 119:89-176

6th Psalms 120-132

7th Psalms 133-139

8th Psalms 140-146

9th Psalms 147-150

10th Proverbs 1-3

11th Proverbs 4-6

12th Proverbs 7-10

13th Proverbs 11-13

14th Proverbs 14-16

15th Proverbs 17-19

16th Proverbs 20-22

17th Proverbs 23-25

18th Proverbs 26-28

19th Proverbs 29-31

20th Ecclesiastes 1-4

21st Ecclesiastes 5-9

22nd Ecclesiastes 10-12

23rd Song of Solomon 1-8

24th OFF

25th Isaiah 1-4

26th Isaiah 5-8

27th Isaiah 9-13

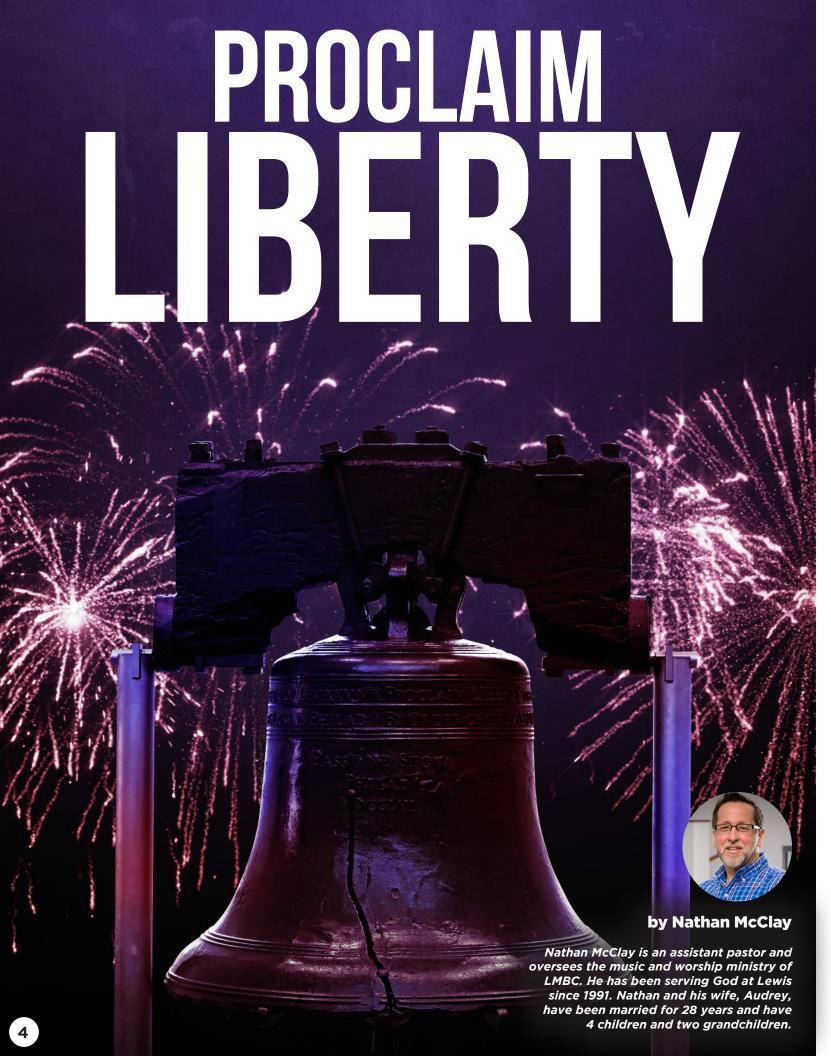
28th Isaiah 14-19

29th Isaiah 20-24

30th Isaiah 25-28

31st Isaiah 29-32

2



n July 8, 1776, the liberty bell in Philadelphia rang out to summon the citizens of the newly formed republic to gather for a public reading of the Declaration of Independence, which had been signed just four days prior, declaring our nation's independence from England. Inscribed on the bell are these words from the book of Leviticus, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land and unto all the inhabitants thereof."

The background of this verse in Leviticus is the Year of Jubilee, which occurred every fifty years. In the Year of Jubilee, debts were canceled and indentured servants were set free in the nation of Israel. This freedom, granted every 50 years, was to serve as a reminder of the deliverance of God's people out of slavery in the land of Egypt, and that the promised land in which they lived really belonged to the Lord.

Along with the Declaration of Independence, another great document of freedom for our nation was the Emancipation Proclamation by Abraham Lincoln. This proclamation was an executive order by the president that became official on January 1, 1863, but it was it not until June 19, 1865, that news of this proclamation finally reached Texas through General Gordon Granger that the Civil War had ended, and that the slaves had been declared free. It is from this date, June 19, 1856, that the holiday Juneteenth has its origins.

Abraham Lincoln became known as the Great Emancipator; however, we see in God's Word the greatest emancipator is the Lord Jesus Christ, the deliverer from the bondage of sin.

On one Sabbath, while attending the temple, our Lord read from the book of Isaiah, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, Because the Lord has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound."

He concluded by saying, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your ears." Thus, He was telling the crowd gathered at the temple that He was the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy and the source of true liberty.

In John 8, Jesus declared, "He who commits sin is the servant of sin.....if the Son makes you free you shall be free from sin." It is through the atoning sacrifice on the cross of Calvary that we find true liberty, pardon from sin, and peace with God.

William Newell, who was saved under the ministry of Evangelist R.A. Torrey at Moody Bible Institute, and went on to become a great Bible teacher and commentator, penned these very familiar words: "Mercy there was great and grace was free; pardon there was multiplied to me; There my burdened soul found liberty, at Calvary."

We read in the book of Galatians that believers in Jesus Christ are not only no longer slaves to sin and its consequences, but are now called sons (or daughters, or children) of God. Romans 8 and Galatians 4 tell us the Spirit reminds us of that fact and causes us to address God as "Abba, Father." Jesus also declared, "That as many as received Him to them gave he the power (or right or authority) to become the sons of God, even to them that believe upon His name."

Yes, we have liberty in Christ, but, oh so much more. Those who were slaves to sin have been set free, and have become children of God and loved by the loving Heavenly Father!

We have sung these words in our church services on recent Sundays, "Who the Son sets free, oh, is free indeed. I'm a child of God yes I am. In my Father's house, there's a place for me. I'm a child of God, yes I am."

The liberty, that we have in Jesus Christ, is the liberty that we need to "proclaim throughout the land, and to all the inhabitants thereof," but also into "all the world" and the "uttermost parts of the earth."





Brent & Tammy Lowe Portugal



Andy & Mimi Bonikowsky Spain



Wendy

Hinzman

France

Mark & Hillary

Stipp

Spain

Doug & Kathy McClain Germany



Rice Slovakia



Dicks

Jason & Adele



Joel & Debbie Hungary

Megan's parents, Steve and Beth Kuhn, have been a part of LMBC for the last 10 years. Megan graduated from Cedarville University in 2014 and has been teaching at East Dayton Christian School since that time. Megan shared with us recently how God has called her to teach overseas with ABWE in Madrid, Spain at Evangelical Christian Academy. Megan has been very active in her church in Dayton, Ohio. We received a letter from both her pastor and the ABWE Spain Team Leader and they shared many glowing tributes, including how she clearly loves the Lord and wants to share that love with others. They spoke of her dedication and hard work and of how her heart for missions and children make her extremely qualified to represent Christ and His church in Madrid. We are excited to be a part of her support team and hope after you read her recent letter/update that you will prayerfully consider joining her team as well.



Having eyes of faith...

What would it look like to have eyes of faith? To see beyond the barriers? To believe and act like God is working even when we can't see? I've been reflecting on Psalm 121 lately. It says: "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; He will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore."

Look up to the Lord with me.

I am choosing to look up. Beyond the hills. Beyond the mountains. Beyond the barriers. Because I know my help comes from the Lord.

What are the mountains right now in preparing to go as an ABWE missionary to Spain to teach for two years?

- 1. FULL FUNDING. I need a team of believers (whether churches or individuals) that will become MONTHLY PARTNERS with me in this ministry.
- 2. VISA application and approval. The process is long and complicated, but it is in the Lord's hands!
- 3. TIME. I need to arrive in Spain in August to start the new school year at Evangelical Christian Academy, and most missionaries raise support in years, not weeks.
- 4. BORDERS. According to what I've been reading, Spain will open its borders on July 1st. But the virus has changed so many plans, so I have to continue looking up to the Lord for His help.
- 5. OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE. Mostly I've shared my story with people one-on-one through an online video conferencing format. Church small groups and "Sunday Schools" aren't meeting still because of virus concerns.

If you would like to join Megan's support team or give a one-time gift you can visit her site and give directly and easily at https://www.abwe.org/work/missionaries/megan-kuhn or by check or online giving at Imbc.org, just remember to note that the gift is for Megan Kuhn. If you would like to watch Megan's video and hear her testimony, visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ohwn84uxPoU

For more missionary updates, go to Imbc.org/missionary-updates

THE GOODNESS OF GOD THE GREATNESS OF AMERICA

There is no question 2020 will go down in the history books. America has seen its share of turbulence this year. In a matter of months we have experienced a pandemic, a historic rise in mental health cases, suicides, and domestic violence, cities across the country being destroyed by rioters and looters, the uncovering of government conspiracies, and over 40 million Americans forced into unemployment. It's hard to believe this has all happened since the birth of my 4-month-old daughter, and I fear the country I am leaving her. What has happened to my wonderful homeland, and is there any hope for her restoration?

I love America, and I want nothing more than to see her and her citizens thrive. I still believe we live in the greatest nation in the world, and we have seen God's blessings like none other. America was founded on the goodness and character of God. The Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776 because our founding fathers believed that the goodness of God mandated that all men be treated equally, and His goodness provided unalienable rights to all people. The goodness of God has been the greatness of America. But the moral breakdown of any individual or society always begins by forgetting God.

There is no denying America has forgotten God, but more specifically, we have forgotten the goodness of God, and that to our detriment. Paul wrote in Romans 2:4, "Can't you see that [God's] kindness is intended to turn you from sin?" His goodness is the very thing that keeps us from destroying ourselves and others. This is the great danger of losing sight of God's goodness—we no longer emulate His goodness and begin doing that which is right in our own eyes.

My hope is not in our politicians, our government, our justice system, or even

our Constitution. All of these fail when the foundation on which they are built begins to crumble. My hope has been, and always will be in the goodness of God. It is the goodness of God that propels a nation back to Him. Hosea 3:4 says, "But afterward the people will return and devote themselves to the LORD their God...In the last days, they will tremble in awe of the LORD and of His goodness." Those who have lost loved ones to Covid-19, those who have lost everything due to the lockdowns, those who have lost family and friends to suicide, those who have watched their businesses go up in flames will only find hope in the goodness of God.

While my faith in human decency has recently begun to waver, my faith in the goodness of God ever strengthens. The reminder of God's goodness should evoke a desire in me to emulate that goodness. Perhaps you have lost hope in the future of our great country; that hope can be restored by reminding people of the goodness of God, and that reminder begins with you. To see a great revival in America it will take more than telling people about God's goodness; it will take living it out. We have seen unprecedented tragedies this year, but each of those tragedies is an opportunity to personify God's goodness. So, "Let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions" (1 John 3:18).



by Bryan Lamm

Bryan is a layman with a desire to equip saints and build relationships. He joined LMBC in 2013 and has used his writing for several Connect articles, as well as lyrics for choir specials solos, and congregational songs. He has been married to his wife, Carrie, since 2007 and is the father of four —Hannah, Rebekah, Noah, and Adah. In his spare time Bryan loves to read, write, and entertain guests in his home.

JOIN OTHERS WHO ARE STRIVING TO BE

DIFFEREN MAKERS_

God called us to be salt and light to the world. This page is dedicated to efforts that help illuminate the darkness by shining the light of Christ. Will you be a difference maker?

WE WANT TO SAY ... THANK YOU

 To everyone who participates in the Kroger Reward Program. We have 64 households participating. Your shopping dollars helped raise \$446 from March 1 to May 31. All funds raised go to support the Operation Christmas Child Ministry.



We want to thank everyone who faithfully donates to the LifeBridge, however, due to the Coronavirus we are unable to receive donations at this time. We will alert you here and online when we are able to resume this process of the ministry.



HELP THOSE WHO ARE LONELY WITH A ... SIMPLE ACT OF KINDESS

- Pray. Sign-up for our email prayer chain and every time we receive a request you will receive an email notifying you of someone who needs prayer.
- Email, text, call, or snail mail another member of the church.
- Sign up with FoodFair and Kroger to be part
 of their Community Rewards Program where a
 percentage of your shopping dollars goes towards
 Brown Bags and Backpack or OCC. Sign-up is easy.
 Simply ask the cashier for information when you
 check-out.



TAKE AT LOOK AT THE LATEST **FAMILY NEWS**

Births

- Hannah Noelle Branham to Stephen & Rachel Branham
- Elliana Rae Sikes to Andrew & Rebecca Sikes

Bereavements

- Vaughna Adkins, Sandy McMellon's and Darlene Webb's mother
- Dallas Beatty, Dreama Perry's brother
- Edward Everett, Rose Mary Burck's brother
- Jim (Scratch) Flowers, Rebecca Flower's husband
- Stan Forman, Steve Forman's brother
- Polly Waggy, J.T. Waggy's mother

Curb-side service

In our current and ever-increasing need for touchless service the following items are now available online or for curb-side pick-up:

- Our Daily Bread Magazine (also available online at ourdailybread.org/read/)
- Word For You Today Devotional Book (also available on mobile)
- Printed copies of Connect Magazine

To receive your items visit the appropriate link, call the church office at 304-736-7676, or simply stop by M-F, 9 am-noon or 1-4 pm.

HOW TO JOIN OUR FAITH COLVINOUR FAITH

Are you looking for a church home? Would you prayerfully consider whether God may be leading you to our family of believers? If you are ready, follow these simple steps:

1st Baptism



Trust in Christ and follow Him in believer's baptism.

2nd Register (pick 1)



In Service: scan the QR code on the pew in front of you and let us know you would like to join.
Online:

Imbc.org/register **Call:** 304-736-7676

3rd Discover



Coming soon!

Watch the **Starting Point** and find out
what is expected of a
member of LMBC.

4th Experience



Meet with one of our Pastors to begin your membership experience.



OUR PASTORS

¹⁷ Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit. **Hebrews 13:17 NIV**

David Lemming Senior Pastor

Dr. David Lemming has been the Senior Pastor of Lewis Memorial Baptist Church in Huntington, West Virginia, since December 1982. He was saved as a teenager and early on became actively involved in various phases of Christian ministry. He has a heart for people and actively seeks new ways of extending Christ's love to those in Huntington and around the world. He and his wife, Mary, have two grown children and three grandchildren.

Tim Yates Life Group & Outreach Pastor

Tim Yates is an assistant pastor who oversees the Life Groups at Lewis Memorial. Tim and his wife Myra grew up locally and graduated from Barboursville High School. Both Tim and Myra are multiplying small group leaders and thoroughly enjoy their role as trainers and equippers for the glory of God. They have a passion for making disciples and mentoring small group apprentices.

Nathan McClay Worship Pastor

Nathan McClay is an assistant pastor and oversees the music and worship ministry of LMBC. He has been serving God at Lewis since 1991. Nathan and his wife, Audrey, have four children and two grandchildren.

Jeremy Shaffer Executive Pastor

Jeremy Shaffer is an assistant pastor who oversees the technical and administrative areas of the ministry. He regularly works alongside his wife Rebekah in the Children's Ministry, teaches in the LMBC Bible Institute, and teaches together with his wife, tackling marriage and family topics as well as general Bible studies for adults. He has been serving the Lord at Lewis since 2004. He and Rebekah have two children, Grace and Luke.

Matt McClay Student Pastor

Matt McClay oversees the student ministry at Lewis. He was raised locally in Huntington and married his wife April in March of 2011. In May of 2012, Matt and April welcomed their daughter, Addison, into the world. Matt has a heart for student ministry, the outdoors, and redeeming technology for God's glory.

Phil Newberry Membership Pastor

Phil and Ann Newberry have been faithfully serving the Lord at Lewis Memorial Baptist Church since 1972. They prepared for service at Tennessee Temple University. Over the years, their service has focused on reaching the young people of the area. Phil and Ann have served as the youth leaders for junior high and high school students, directed the children's church ministries and led the college department. Phil has also been active in the music ministry and is an ordained deacon.

Bill Blankenship Hospital Visitation Pastor

Bill Blankenship oversees the hospital and nursing home visitation program at Lewis Memorial. Bill and his wife, Debbie, have a loving and caring heart for the sick, shut-ins, widows and widowers. Bill and Debbie married in 1974 and have two grown children and are proud grandparents of Grace, Olivia, Jaxon, and Christian.

Connect is the monthly news and informational publication from



Making disciples who live and love like Jesus

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*TEMPORARY SUNDAY WORSHIP 8, 9:30, & 11 am (inperson) 9:30 & 11 am (live stream) 6 pm (live stream)

*WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7 pm (live stream)

*to comply with state guidelines and accomodate crowds

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Read previous editions of

10



WE NEED GOD'S HEALING

Lewis
Memorial

OONE